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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 25, 1994

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MEMORANDUM

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TO: AF - Mr. Moose

THROUGH: AF - Mr. Brynn

FROM: AF/RA - Leonard Shurtleff

SUBJECT: Senate Foreign Relations Africa Subcommittee Hearing
on the Crisis in Central Africa, Tuesday, July 26,
2:00 p.m., 419 Dirksen Senate Office Building

I. PARTICIPANTS AND PURPOSE

Senate Foreign Relations Africa (SFRC AF) Subcommittee Chairman Simon scheduled this hearing on Rwanda and Burundi before the Goma refugee crisis. Simon remains concerned with events in Rwanda and the effects of those events on Burundi and the other surrounding states in the region.

A.I.D Administrator Atwood will lead the Administration witnesses. Simon has asked Atwood to address details of the assistance to the refugee camps. You follow Atwood. Your testimony highlights the political situation in Rwanda and Burundi and the regional implications of the crisis. Molly Williamson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East and Africa Division, will describe the military response to the Rwandese refugee crisis. Lt. Gen. Anthony Zinni, commanding general of the Marine Expeditionary Force, will discuss humanitarian intervention. Zinni was involved in the Somalia intervention. Allyson Des Forges (Human Rights Watch), Roger Winter (U.S. Committee on Refugees) and Dr. Alain Destexhe (Doctors without Borders) are the scheduled private witnesses.

There likely will be a large SFRC Committee turn-out at this hearing because of the media play on Rwanda. Chairman Simon, Ranking Republican Jeffords, and Senators Feingold and Kassebaum probably will attend. Full Committee Chairman Pell may attend the hearing.

II. BACKGROUND

Subcommittee Chairman Simon consistently has been interested in the events in Rwanda. He amended the July 1 Senate DOD authorization (attached) which, inter alia, called on DOD to expedite U.S. military contributions to the

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humanitarian effort in Rwanda. He also joined 11 other Senators in a letter to the President (attached) calling on DOD to provide logistical and airlift support for refugee relief in Goma. DAS Bushnell and AF/C Office Director Render briefed SFRC and Agriculture Committee staff on Rwanda/Burundi on three occasions in the six weeks before the July 4 Congressional recess. OFDA is updating SFRC staffers on USG relief assistance to the Rwandese refugees on July 25.

Chairman Simon is a proponent of DOD participation in and/or funding of peacekeeping missions and unsuccessfully tried to designate a portion of 050 accounts to peacekeeping last year. No doubt Simon will use the crisis in Rwanda as an example of the need for DOD action in humanitarian missions.

The Senators may raise some of the following after you testify: role of the Administration and international community in helping address the underlying political cause of the refugee crisis, e.g. supporting the Belgian call for a UNAMIR departure from Rwanda early in the crisis, slowness of DOD engagement, reasons for not jamming provocative radio broadcasts; effect of the Rwanda crisis on Burundi and other surrounding states; status of the UNAMIR force; makeup and philosophy of the new Rwandese government; recognition of the new government; efforts by the new government to provide an environment conducive to the return of refugees; status of Arusha accords; compliance of the new government to the Arusha accords; how the RPF can effectively govern when so many of its Tutsi supporters were killed; analysis of the French role; what the international community will do to assure trials of those accused of genocide; future role of USG in addressing the political events in Rwanda; status of the Burundi army; how instability in Zaire will affect the crisis in Rwanda; discussions the USG is having with the Zairian PM Kengo wa Dondo on Rwanda; and discussions the USG has had with the French.

RPF representative Gahima met with Simon on July 22. Gahima lobbied for USG recognition of the new government and technical support for broadcasting facilities to get the message to refugees that it is safe to return. Simon was amenable to the requests.

AF/C is preparing your briefing book.

There will be a large map in the Committee room for use during the testimony. The map will detail Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Uganda, and Tanzania. It will include location and number of refugee communities, the French safe zone, large water sources, and the location of the UNAMIR forces.

Attachments:

- Simon Letter of Invitation
- Simon Press Announcement
- Simon, et. al. letter to the President
- Simon Amendment to the DOD authorization

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